

What Is Claimed Is:

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1. A bent metal glazing bead having at least one elongated leg that has at least one portion thereof of a u-shaped cross-section where one side of the u-shape is short and the other side is long and includes a bridge portion, the elongated u-shaped cross-section and bridge portion forming a bead, the elongated u-shaped leg with its long side and bridge portion providing a smooth continuous surface,

the elongated u-shaped cross-section leg configured to cooperate in a mating fashion with a portion of a support structure to sandwich a panel on the support structure between the short side of the elongated leg and long side bridge portion and an opposing surface portion of the support structure to thereby glaze the panel in place and simultaneously visually present a smooth continuous surface of the glazing bead to mask a junction of the panel with the support structure.

2. The bent metal glazing bead of Claim 1 wherein the support structure is a frame portion of an opening in a wall.

3. The bent metal glazing bead of Claim 2 which further includes at least one mechanical means that cooperates with the bridge portion of the long side of the u-shaped cross-section and a portion of the frame to thereby secure the glazing bead to the frame.

4. The bent metal glazing bead of Claim 2 wherein the elongated leg is dimensioned to matingly engage a rabbet on the frame that has positioned within the rabbet a panel to be glazed in place.

112

Sub A-3

5. A bent metal glazing bead having a pair of spaced elongated legs having a U-shaped channel therebetween, each leg having portions thereof that have a U-shaped cross-section, one side of each u-shape section being short and the other side being interconnected to form a bridge element joining the spaced apart elongated legs so as to provide a continuous surface spanning both elongated legs and the u-shaped channel.

the U-shaped channel of the glazing bead configured to cooperate in a mating fashion with a portion of a mullion to sandwich panels on either side of the mullion between the elongated legs and an opposing surface portion of the mullion to thereby simultaneously glaze both sides of the mullion and thereby present the smooth continuous surface of the glazing channel to mask a junction of the panels with the mullion

6. The bent metal glazing bead of claim 5 which further includes at least one mechanical means that cooperates with the bridge element and a portion of a mullion matingly fitted into the U-shaped channel between the elongated legs to thereby secure the glazing channel to the mullion.

7. The bent metal glazing bead of claim 6 wherein the elongated legs of rectangular cross-section are dimensioned to matingly engage rabbets on either side of the mullion that have positioned within each rabbet a panel to be glazed in place.

8. A bent metal glazing bead having at least one elongated hollow rectangular cross-section leg and an integrally formed bridge element to form the bead, the elongated hollow leg and bridge element providing an opposing external, smooth continuous surface comprised of a portion of the elongated hollow leg and the bridge element.

the elongated hollow cross-section leg configured to cooperate in a mating fashion with a portion of a support structure to sandwich a panel on the support structure between the elongated hollow leg and an opposing surface portion of the support structure to thereby glaze the panel in place and simultaneously visually present a smooth continuous surface of the glazing bead to mask a junction of the panel with the support structure.

9. The bent metal glazing bead of Claim 8 wherein the support structure is a frame portion of an opening in a wall.

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10. The bent metal glazing bead of Claim 9 which further includes at least one mechanical means that cooperates with the bridge element and a portion of the frame to thereby secure the glazing bead to the frame.

11. The bent metal glazing bead of Claim 9 wherein the elongated hollow leg of rectangular cross-section is dimensioned to matingly engage a rabbet on the frame that has positioned within the rabbet a panel to be glazed in place.

Sub
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12. A bent metal glazing bead having a pair of spaced apart elongated hollow rectangular cross-section legs interconnected by a bridge element to form a U-shaped channel between the elongated legs, while providing an opposing external smooth continuous surface comprised of a portion of each of the elongated hollow legs and the bridge element,

the U-shaped channel of the glazing bead configured to cooperate in a mating fashion with a portion of a mullion to sandwich panels on either side of the mullion between the elongated hollow legs and an opposing surface portion of the mullion to thereby simultaneously glaze both sides of the mullion and thereby present the smooth continuous surface of the glazing channel to mask a junction of the panels with the mullion

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13. The bent metal glazing bead of Claim 12 which further includes at least one mechanical means that cooperates with the bridge element and a portion of a mullion matingly fitted into the U-shaped channel between the elongated legs to thereby secure the glazing channel to the mullion.

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A4

14. The bent metal glazing bead of Claim 2 wherein the elongated legs of rectangular cross-section are dimensioned to matingly engage rabbets on either side of the mullion that have positioned within each rabbet a panel to be glazed in place.

15. A glazing bead for use in combination with a hollow metal wall having a unitary welded frame at its perimeter and at least one mullion welded

thereto to provide at least two openings in the wall into which openings at least two panels are glazed onto the mullion and secured against the frame by means of a glazing bead, the glazing bead comprising:

a bent meal U-shaped glazing channel having a pair of spaced apart elongated hollow rectangular cross-section legs interconnected by a bridge element to form a U-shaped channel between the elongated legs, while providing an opposing external smooth continuous surface comprised of a portion of each of the elongated hollow legs and the bridge element,

the U-shaped channel of the glazing channel cooperating in a mating fashion with a portion of the mullion to sandwich panels on either side of the mullion between the elongated hollow legs and a surface portion of the mullion to thereby simultaneously glaze both sides of the mullion and thereby present the smooth continuous surface of the glazing channel to cover a junction of the panels with the mullion.

16. The glazing bead and hollow metal wall of Claim 15 which further includes at least one fastener to securely connect the bridge element to the mullion.

17. The glazing bead and hollow metal wall of Claim 15 wherein the mullion is provided with rabbets on either side of the mullion which cooperate with an edge of each panel when the panels are sandwiched between the elongated hollow legs of the glazing channel and the mullion.